

AMENDMENT AND PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS

Please replace all prior claims in the present application with the following claims, in which claims 18, 20, 21, and 23 are currently amended, and claims 24-27 are newly presented.

1-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A method for replacing a valve stem, comprising:

disconnecting a wire lead coupled to a valve pin disposed within the valve stem from a terminal of a battery;

replacing the valve stem; and

connecting a wire lead coupled to a valve pin disposed within the replaced valve stem with a terminal of the battery.

19. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 18, wherein the battery is coupled to a tire pressure sensor.

20. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 18, further comprising:

disconnecting a wire lead coupled to a threaded connector from another terminal of the battery; and

connecting a wire lead coupled to a threaded connector disposed within the replaced valve stem with the other terminal of the battery.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for replacing a valve stem assembly, comprising:

disconnecting a valve pin disposed within the valve stem assembly from a wire lead coupled to a terminal of a battery;

removing the valve stem assembly from a valve stem attached to a wheel rim;
inserting a new valve stem assembly into the valve stem; and
connecting a valve pin disposed within the new valve stem assembly to the wire lead coupled to the terminal of the battery.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 20, wherein the battery is coupled to a tire pressure sensor.

23. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 21, further comprising:
disconnecting a threaded connector disposed within the valve stem assembly from a wire lead coupled to another terminal of the battery; and
connecting a threaded connector disposed within the new valve stem assembly to the wire lead coupled to the terminal of the battery.

24. (New) A valve stem apparatus comprising:
a valve pin coupled to a first terminal of a battery via a first wire lead; and
a threaded connector coupled to a second terminal of a battery via a second wire lead,
wherein the valve stem apparatus is replaced by disconnecting the first wire lead from the first terminal and the second wire lead from the second terminal.

25. (New) A valve stem assembly according to claim 24, wherein the battery is coupled to a tire pressure sensor.

26. (New) A valve stem assembly according to claim 24, further comprising:

a first removable connector coupled to the first wire lead and to either the valve pin or the first terminal.

27. (New) A valve stem assembly according to claim 26, further comprising:

a second removable connector coupled to the second wire lead and either to the threaded connector or the second terminal.